

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1890
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2008
AIRPORTS IN HIMACHAL PRADESH
Thakur Shri Anurag Singh

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the airports in Himachal Pradesh are very small and they have the landing facilities only for small and lighter aircraft in which air travel is costly;
- (b) if so, whether the Government propose to expand the airports of Himachal Pradesh so that it could allow landing of medium size aeroplanes;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b),(c)&(d) Due to terrain conditions and lack of adequate land availability as per ICAO requirements, it is not feasible to expand the airports in Himachal Pradesh to cater to medium size aircraft. However, the airports in Himachal Pradesh are being upgraded to the extent feasible subject to availability of adequate land to meet ICAO requirements, so as to enable operation of ATR type of aircraft without any load penalty.